



PATENT

Attorney Docket: 203-2031DIVCON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Robert D. Rehnke, M.D.

EXAMINER: Unassigned

SERIAL NO.: 10/614,763

GROUP UNIT: Unassigned

FILED: July 8, 2003

DATED: October 8, 2003

FOR: **METHOD FOR SURGICAL DISSECTION, SIZING
AND EXPANSION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

The references listed were previously cited and submitted in the parent application, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/525,599 filed March 14, 2000. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and 35 U.S.C. §120, copies of the references can be obtained in the above-identified application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 8, 2003.

Dated: October 8, 2003

Christopher G. Trainor
Christopher G. Trainor

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).
- Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
- Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$180.00. 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- Please charge the \$180.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2140.
- Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-2140.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or §1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding and/or a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(i) are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time and/or enter this Information Disclosure Statement as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher G. Trainor

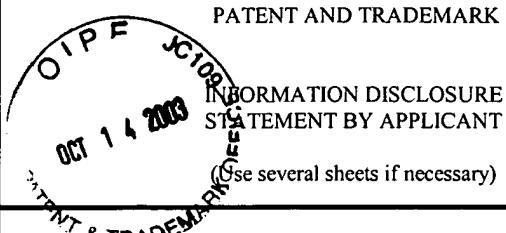
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Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.:	SERIAL NO.:		
				203-2031DIVCON	10/614,763		
				APPLICANTS:			
				D. Rehnke, MD			
				FILING DATE:	GROUP ART UNIT:		
				July 8, 2003	Unassigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,157,085	06/05/79	Austad			
		4,217,889	08/19/80	Radovan et al.			
		4,685,447	08/11/87	Iversen et al.			
		4,823,815	04/25/89	Watson et al.			
		4,955,905	09/11/90	Reed			
		5,092,348	03/03/92	Dubrul et al.			
		5,158,571	10/27/92	Picha			
		5,163,949	11/17/92	Bonutti			
		5,258,026	11/02/93	Johnson et al.			
		5,496,345	03/05/96	Kieturkis et al.			
		5,514,153	05/07/96	Bonutti			
		5,776,159	07/1998	Young			
		5,871,497	02/1999	Young			
		5,702,417	12/30/97	Hermann			
		5,690,668	11/25/97	Fogarty et al.			
		5,658,328	8/19/97	Johnson			
		5,655,545	8/12/97	Johnson et al.			
		5,630,813	5/20/97	Kieturakis			
		5,500,019	3/19/96	Johnson et al.			
		4,624,671	11/25/86	Kress			
		5,411,554	5/2/95	Scopelanos et al.			
		3,994,301	11/76	Agris			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
<p>* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>							

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

Form PTO-1449 	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 203-2031DIVCON	SERIAL NO. 10/614,763	
	APPLICANTS: Robert D. Rehne, M.D.				
	FILING DATE: July 30, 2003		GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned		
	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
	EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		1.	Spacemaker Surgical Balloon Dissector, Guide Rod with Balloon Cartridges, Model Number PSD 1915-01.
		2.	Spacemaker Surgical Balloon Dissector with Responsible Guide Rod, Instructions For Use, 1996.
		3.	Ferraro et al., Improving the Efficiency, Ease, and Efficacy of Endoscopic Abdominoplasty, pg. 895-898, March 1997.
		4.	Levin et al., Endoscopy of the Upper Extremity, vol. 11, number 1, February 1995, pg. 59-70.
		5.	MDI, Inside Surgery, vol. II: No. 4, October 1994.
		6.	Buskirk, et al., Endoscopic Harvest of the Latissimus Dorsi Muscle Using the Balloon Dissection Technique, pg. 899-903, March 1997.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])